



# EWP

## EMERGENCY WATERSHED PROTECTION PROGRAM

### Available Assistance

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) may provide financial and technical assistance for watershed protection when emergencies occur due to floods, fires, windstorms, earthquakes, tornadoes, drought, runoff, erosion, or other natural occurrences.

### Emergency Measures

Any measure needed to provide continued watershed protection may be repaired or replaced. All measures must be economically and environmentally defensible and conform to NRCS technical standards.

Typical work in Missouri includes removal of sediment and debris from drainageways, levee repair, and streambank stabilization.

### Cost-sharing

Federal funds may cover up to 75 percent of the construction costs for most emergency measures. The sponsor's share of construction costs may be provided in the form of cash, in-kind services such as labor or equipment, or a combination of cash and in-kind services.

### Eligibility

Assistance may be available to public or private landowners, land managers, land users or others who have a legal interest in, or responsibility for, the

values threatened by a watershed emergency. Eligible applicants must have insufficient funds or other resources available to provide relief from the emergency hazards. All applicants must have a sponsor.

### Sponsors

Sponsors must be a legal subdivision of state government, the state itself, an established local unit of government, a legally recognized levee or drainage district, or a county commission. In certain cases, federal agencies can be sponsors.

Sponsors must have legal authority and agree to use it to obtain land rights, water rights and permits as needed. They also must agree to operate and maintain the completed emergency measures.

### Where to get help

If you think you may qualify for assistance through the Emergency Watershed Protection program, contact NRCS at your local USDA service center. You can find your local service center in the phone book under U.S. Government, Department of Agriculture or on the web at [www.mo.nrcs.usda.gov](http://www.mo.nrcs.usda.gov).



The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is authorized to administer the Emergency Watershed Protection program (EWP) in emergency situations under Section 216 of PL81-516, Section 403 of Title IV of the Agricultural Credit Act of 1978 of PL95-334, and Section 382 of Title III of the 1996 Farm Bill Law 107-127.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.